

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 9, and 18 as shown below, in which changes are indicated by strikethrough and/or underscoring. Please add new claims 24 and 25. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An air bag system comprising:
an air bag for placement in a folded state under an upper surface of an instrument panel of a vehicle, and for being inflated by an inflator when the vehicle is crashed,
wherein the air bag has a pocket for extending inwardly inside of the air bag at a lower surface of the air bag when the air bag is fully inflated, and
wherein the pocket has an opening portion disposed at the lower surface of the air bag.
2. (Original) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the pocket is located in a position corresponding to a top portion of a child safety seat when the air bag is inflated.
3. (Original) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the pocket is located in a position corresponding to a top portion of a child safety seat mounted on an occupant seat while facing rearward of the vehicle when the air bag is inflated.
4. (Previously presented) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the air bag further comprises an exhaust hole located in the vicinity of the pocket for exhausting a gas.

5. (Previously presented) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the pocket is housed inside of the air bag when the air bag is in said folded state.

6. (Previously presented) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the pocket is recessed from the lower surface of the air bag, and wherein the pocket comprises:

a pocket bag portion having a predetermined depth when the air bag is inflated;

a pocket opening portion for receiving a top of a child safety seat, said pocket opening portion having a predetermined opening area; and

a strap connecting an inside of an upper surface of the air bag with a bottom of the pocket bag portion.

7. (Original) The air bag system according to claim 6, wherein the depth of the pocket bag portion is between 5cm and 30cm.

8. (Original) The air bag system according to claim 6, wherein the opening area of the pocket opening portion is in the range from 450 to 900cm².

9. (Currently amended) The air bag system according to claim 6, wherein the strap is sewed to the bottom of the pocket bag portion at one end thereof and to the inside of the upper surface of the air bag at the other end thereof.

10. (Previously presented) The air bag system according to claim 6, wherein the pocket opening portion is formed in one of a slit shape, a circular shape, a rectangular shape and an oval

shape.

11. - 13. Canceled

14. (Original) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the pocket is formed in a conical shape.

15. (Original) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the pocket is formed in a semi-oval shape.

16. (Previously presented) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the pocket is formed in a cylindrical shape with a circular bottom opposing a pocket opening portion.

17. (Original) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the pocket is convexed from the lower surface of the air bag.

18. (Currently amended) An air bag for placement in a folded state under an upper surface of an instrument panel of a vehicle, and for being inflated by an inflator when the vehicle is crashed,

wherein the air bag is constructed and arranged to have a pocket formed in a lower surface thereof when the air bag is fully inflated, the pocket comprising:

a pocket bag portion having a predetermined depth when the air bag is inflated;

a pocket opening portion for receiving an obstacle therein, said pocket opening portion having a predetermined opening area and being disposed at the lower surface of the air bag; and

a strap connecting an inside of an upper surface of the air bag with the pocket bag portion.

19. (Original) The air bag of claim 18, wherein the air bag further comprises an exhaust hole located in the vicinity of the pocket for exhausting a gas.

20. (Original) The air bag of claim 18, wherein the pocket is located in a position corresponding to a top portion of a child safety seat when the air bag is inflated.

21. (Previously presented) The air bag system according to claim 1, wherein the pocket includes a pocket opening portion for receiving an obstacle therein, said pocket opening portion having a predetermined opening area.

22. (Previously presented) The air bag of claim 18, wherein the pocket extends inwardly inside of the air bag at a lower surface of the air bag when the air bag is fully inflated.

23. (Previously presented) The air bag system according to claim 18, wherein the pocket opening portion is formed in one of a slit shape, a circular shape, a rectangular shape and an oval shape.

24. (New) An air bag system comprising:
an air bag for placement in a folded state under an upper surface of an instrument panel of a vehicle, and for being inflated by an inflator when the vehicle is crashed,

wherein the air bag has an outer surface and a pocket provided for extending inwardly inside of the air bag at a lower portion of the air bag's outer surface when the air bag is fully inflated, and

wherein the pocket comprises

an opening portion disposed at the lower portion of the air bag's outer surface,

and

a body portion having sidewalls for extending inwardly from the opening portion in a fully inflated configuration of the airbag, such that the sidewalls are spaced apart and distinct from the outer surface of the air bag.

25. (New) The air bag system of claim 24, wherein the sidewalls of the pocket form a closed shape such that a cross section of the sidewalls provides a closed section, and the closed section is spaced apart from the outer surface of the air bag.